



**PEHSC Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, June 12, 2019**

Minutes

CONVENE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Mr. Henry, President, called the meeting to order at 1000 hours

- Welcome and Introductions

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Allegheny County EMS Council – Douglas Garretson
Allegheny General Hospital – David Lindell
Ambulance Association of PA – Donald Dereamus/Heather Sharar
American Heart Association Great Rivers Affiliate – Alexander Kuhn
Burholme EMS – Timothy Hinchcliff/Blake Bradley
Center for Emergency Medicine of Western PA – Dr. Ronald Roth
Centre LifeLink EMS – Kent Knable
Cumberland Goodwill EMS – Nathan Harig
Emergency Nurses Association, PA – Kay-Ella Bleecher
Good Fellowship Ambulance and Training Institute – Kimberly Holman
Harrisburg Area Community College – Robert Bernini
Highmark – Robert McCaughan
Horsham Fire Company No 1 – Duane Spencer
Hospital and Healthsystem Association of PA – Scott Mickalonis
Non-Profit Emergency Services of Beaver County – Steve Bailey
Northwest EMS – Scott Kingsboro
Pennsylvania ACEP – Dr. Bryan Wexler
Second Alarmers Association and Rescue Squad – Ken Davidson
Southern Alleghenies EMS Council – Carl Moen
Tower Health – Anthony Martin/Mervin Wertz
Valley Ambulance Authority – JR Henry/Melvin Musulin
Wellspan York Hospital – Dr. Thomas Yeich
Williamsport Area Ambulance Service Cooperative – Dr. Gregory Frailey

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Cetronia Ambulance Corps. – Chris Peischl
Chester County Department of Emergency Services – Harry Moore
City of Allentown EMS – Eric Gratz/Matthew Brett
Commonwealth Health EMS – Julian Watras
Eastern PA EMS Council – Jason Smith
Emergency Health Services Federation – Dr. Michael Reihart
Marple Township Ambulance Corps – Ali Erbayri
Pennsylvania College of Technology – Christopher Boyer
Pennsylvania State University – David Jones
Southwest Ambulance Alliance – JR Henry/Melvin Musulin

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT (cont.)

UPMC Presbyterian Hospital – Myron Rickens
VFIS Education and Training Services – Justin Eberly
Western Berks Ambulance Association – Anthony Tucci

BUREAU OF EMS

Dylan Ferguson, Director

OTHERS

Bucks County EMS Office – Michele Rymdeika
Chester County EMS – Jonathan Werner
EMS for Children Committee – Ted Fessides, Chair, Cranberry Township EMS
West York Ambulance – Bill Niehenke
Volunteer Medical Service Corps of Lower Merion and Narberth – Alvin Wang

PEHSC STAFF

Janette Swade, Director
Donald Potter, Sr. EMS System Specialist
Kelli Kishbaugh, Administrative Assistance

Staff Attendance Note: Andy Snavelly, absent due to vacation

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Bleacher and seconded by Dr. Frailey to accept the March 20, 2019 Board of Directors meeting minutes as drafted. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

The President reported that the conference will be held in September and it is very important for Council members to attend in support of the program. Gold Sponsor Penn Medicine Lancaster General Health, Silver Sponsors Geisinger, Jefferson Health, Temple Health, and UPMC-Pinnacle as well as Community Partner Highmark. It would not be possible to host such a high quality event without this kind of support.

The President provided a Treat no Transport Act Update:

- a. UPMC has offered first fee schedule, but far below cost to provide the service.
- b. Although the fee schedule is not great, it is a good starting point and ahead of the mandate.
- c. Concerns about low reimbursement triggering anti kickback statutes.
- d. Since this is new, there will be lots of questions.
- e. AAP working with insurance industry and Legislators on procedure codes and other polices/procedures.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Dr. Ronald Roth, Treasurer provided a report, a copy of which is on file for the member’s review.

A motion was made by Mr. Harig and seconded by Mr. Knable to accept the Treasurer’s report. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Swade reported on the following:

1. Welcomed Kelli Kishbaugh who was hired as the new Administrative Assistant with PEHSC. She started Monday, June 10, 2019.
2. Angie Poorman is no longer with PEHSC. Looking to fill the EMS for Children Project Director position later in the summer.
3. New budget for July 2019 will be \$ 421,539.00 this remains unchanged from our current budget – we are waiting on the contract template materials or the renewal by letter option information from the department for our contract for FY 19-20.
4. EMS Week resolutions and proclamations were requested and received from the House/Senate and Governor's Office
5. The Department of Health accepted our audit report from 17-18
6. The Line of Credit with the bank of \$20,000. Has been re-paid. We have a line of credit available in the amount of \$130,000
7. The HRSA Flex Grant as discussed at the last meeting will be submitted next week. We are working with the office of rural health and the department on the flex grant proposal to sustain EMS agencies in rural communities. The plan for the grant is to link it with our supporting corporation the PA EMS Association. This is a good opportunity for the Assn and PEHSC to work with the office of rural health on a targeted EMS issue. The funding is \$30,000. for this year as part of an assessment and the potential is up to \$250,000 each year for 3 years.
8. The following legislative issues were discussed: Mental Health bill which also increases the EMSOF fine; overdose data reporting by First Responders and Leave Behind Narcan legislation.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH REPORT

Director Dylan Ferguson reported on the following topics:

1. BLS/ALS/Critical Care protocol update: posting to the PA Bulletin is slightly delayed
2. AEMT protocols are lagging behind but should be ready for review in late Summer
3. Updated scope and medication lists are being prepared to post on website, most of the scope of practice changes ae to align with the national scope document
4. CPR legislation (hands only) passed targeting it as a requirement for all high school students
5. EMSOF dollars declining – funding for contractors level for FY 19-20, this includes PEHSC
6. Looking at new contract process for the grant to PEHSC for EMSC
7. There is a Hepatitis A outbreak in PA for information refer to the DOH website
8. The legislation supporting changes to the Trauma system is in the House

ET3 Presentation – Overview

Steve Wirth, Esq reported

1. Handout given – the overview is:
 - a. ET3 is a 5-year model – currently a CMS experiment, not a permanent reimbursement program
 - b. Only selected Medicare participating ambulance providers and supplier are eligible for payment under the model
 - c. Applies only to Medicare Part B FFS beneficiaries
 - d. Timeline
 - i. RFA Released – Spring 2019
 - ii. RFA Application Submission Period – Summer 2019
 - iii. Participants Selected – Fall 2019
 - iv. Performance Start – January 2020

- v. Performance End – December 2024
- e. Following selection of participating ambulance services, CMS will issue a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) in Fall 2019
 - i. Up to 40 “cooperative agreements” of two years
 - ii. Funds will be available to the 911 dispatch agencies in the areas where the ambulance services have been selected.

TASK FORCE/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Medical Advisory Committee

Dr. Reihart reported the medical advisory committee met on April 17th for their spring face-to-face meeting.

- I. Dr. Tim Chizmar, who is the medical director for Southern York County EMS and the new Maryland state medical, made a pilot project proposal regarding the use of prehospital ultrasound. This is a 1-year pilot in cooperation with Wellspan York Hospital looking at target populations that include:
 - Penetrating and blunt force to the chest or abdomen where there is concern for intra-abdominal hemorrhage, pneumothorax or pericardial tamponade.
 - Undifferentiated dyspnea or suspected pulmonary edema.
 - Cardiac arrest presenting with pulseless electrical activity or when considering termination of resuscitative efforts.
 - Third trimester pregnancy in suspected active labor

All providers involved in the project will undergo education and training on the use of the ultrasound device and image interpretation. Providers will also be required to pass a practical evaluation on their ability to interpret various images.

York Hospital will assist with provider education and be an integral part of the QA process by reviewing all images transmitted to the hospital.

The MAC voted unanimously to recommend the Department of Health approve the pilot program.

Dr. Kupas lead the group in a final review of the proposed updates to the statewide treatment protocols. Edits to the ALS, BLS and critical care protocols were reviewed; updates to the AEMT protocols will be slightly delayed in order to consider changes to the national scope of practice model recently released by NHTSA. The updated scope of practice model also lead to changes at the EMT level, particularly in the area of limited medication administration.

After the protocols are put in final form and the online education module has been completed, the protocols will be released for provider review. The Department anticipates a September 1, 2019 deadline to begin using the updated protocols.

- II. The next scheduled MAC meeting is a webinar on Wednesday, August 14, 2019

Critical Care Transport Task Force

Mr. Spencer reported the critical care transport task force met on Thursday, March 28th for their spring meeting, in conjunction with the 2019 EMS Update Conference at Seven Springs.

Keith Micucci, Jim Houser, along with Drs. Guyette and Trager reported on the progress of the CCT Resource utilization workgroup. This workgroup was asked to develop strategies to more effectively utilize the Commonwealth’s current CCT ground transport resources.

The workgroup is currently exploring the following concepts:

- Assisting the sending physician in requesting the transport resource that best matches the patient's acuity and intra-transport needs.
- Differentiating between the high acuity patient that truly needs the multi-disciplinary transport team and the stable patient with therapies outside of the scope of practice of the ALS paramedic.
- The "ideal resource" vs. the "available resource" in situations where a patient's very survival is dependent on reaching tertiary care in a timely manner.
- The concept of "just in time" training in situations where the ideal resource is not available for an extended period of time and the ALS paramedic is tasked to monitor a medication with which they are not familiar.
- Changing the CCT paramedic's scope of practice and med list to allow them to transport and monitor stable patients without the need for a second ALS provider.

Dr. Guyette reviewed a decision algorithm that could be used to assist the emergency physician with the risk-benefit analysis when the ideal resource is not available to provide transport.

Jim Houser and Keith Micucci reviewed a decision-axis that uses various examples that span the EMS transport spectrum to assist the emergency physician when requesting transport resources. Both of these items are part of developing a "toolbox" for the sending physician.

Dr. Chris Martin-Gill suggested the development of an expert consultation resource list organized by region. This list could include CCT/Air program medical directors and tertiary care facility physicians with experience in transport medicine. This list could be part of a comprehensive resource document that would include the previously developed PACEP/PEHSC EMS transport resource description, decision axis and ideal vs. available resource risk assessment algorithm.

Following a lengthy discussion, which included input from Director Ferguson and Dr. Kupas, the workgroup was encouraged to continue their work to develop formal recommendations for task force consideration.

Dr. Kupas lead the group in a review of the current draft of the updated critical care protocols based on input he received from the task force at the October 2018 meeting. The final draft of the protocols will be reviewed by MAC at its April meeting.

EMS for Children Committee

Mr. Fessides reported

1. The committee met on June 6.
2. The protocol revisions impacting pediatric patients were discussed and the Safe Transport protocol #124 revision which adds a visual algorithm to assist providers.
3. Safe transport devices were discussed including the new device by Quantum that supports skin to skin contact with Mom and newborn. Based on the efforts of a national working group to review these devices and note their capabilities, it was decided to establish a subcommittee to review devices in an effort to educate agencies. Of course the committee will not be endorsing devices.
4. A presentation about "Safe Landings," a community based pediatric focused MIHC program from Cranberry Twp EMS, was shared with the committee.

5. Efforts made over EMS Week to coordinate community Child Safety Seat Checks was shared and discussed – it was suggested to change the date next year to coincide with a safety day/month
6. Another appeal was made to the committee members to share pediatric programs onto PA Train. Mr. Fessides requested the same from the Board and Council.
7. Another national effort to survey EMS agencies will begin in 2020 and will be an annual data effort to gauge performance with 2 of the program goals
8. The PECC project was discussed and led to the VTR you have today to begin the integration into the PVRP program.
9. Mr. Spencer then provided an overview of program meeting materials that have been prepared to start education with the providers. The PECC website is finished but not live pending one change.

Mr. Fessides, then, on behalf of the EMSC for Children Committee recommended VTR 0619-01,

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHOULD ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING REVISION TO THE CURRENT PEDIATRIC VOLUNTARY RECOGNITION PROGRAM (PVRP). THIS REVISION WILL DESIGNATE OF THE PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY CARE COORDINATOR (PECC) AT THE MASTER AND EXPERT LEVELS.

It was moved by Ms. Blecher and seconded by Mr. Bernini - **Motion Carried**

Membership Committee Report

Mr. Bernini reported – one Council application for consideration, **West York Ambulance**.

It was moved by Ms. Blecher and seconded by Dr. Frailey - **Motion Carried**

President Henry thanked the Membership Committee for their work

Nominating Committee Report

Dr. Frailey, (on behalf of Chair Jean Bail) reported on the activities of the committee and introduced the slate of candidates for the 2019-20 Executive Committee:

- J. David Jones, President
Representing: Pennsylvania State University
- Robert Bernini, Vice President
Representing: Harrisburg Area Community College
- Gregory Frailey, DO, Secretary
Representing: Williamsport Area Ambulance Service dba Susquehanna Regional EMS
- Ronald Roth, MD, Treasurer
Representing: Center for Emergency Medicine of Western Pennsylvania, Inc.
- Douglas Garretson, Member-at-Large
Representing: Ambulance Association of PA
- Robert McCaughan, Member-at-Large
Representing: Allegheny General Hospital

President Henry thanked the Nominating Committee for their work.

OTHER BUSINESS

Conference Update – Janette Swade

Ms. Swade provide an overview of the conference planning to date. The 42nd Annual PA EMS Conference is rapidly approaching, Sept. 4-6, at Spooky Nook Sports in Manheim. We have an excellent agenda packed with interesting sessions, 3 keynote speakers, and a variety of preconference

options. Register soon for the best rates as prices go up at the end of this month. We also have a variety of options for sponsors and vendors still available so please spread the word within your respective sphere of influence. More information can be found on the conference website, www.paemsconference.org, or by calling our office or emailing conference@pehsc.org. Again thanks to our current sponsors. Gold Sponsor Penn Medicine Lancaster General Health, Silver Sponsors Geisinger, Jefferson Health, Temple Health, and UPMC-Pinnacle as well as Community Partner Highmark.

EMS Awards – Janette Swade

Ms. Swade reported in conjunction with the conference, we are currently accepting nominations for the PA State EMS Awards. As always, these will be presented during a special ceremony at the conference. There are a variety of award categories and we encourage everyone to take a look and consider nominating those individuals and agencies that stand out amongst their peers. The awards nomination form can be accessed via our website, www.pehsc.org.

DMIST Project – Janette Swade

Ms Swade reported, the trauma handoff (DMIST) project has reached completion. This joint venture between BEMS, PEHSC, and PTSF aims to streamline and standardize the transfer of care process at our state's trauma centers. This is also being included as a recommended best practice in the upcoming protocol updates. Sample documents and educational materials have been created and distributed. They can also be accessed on the PEHSC website or by contacting our office.

LODD Project – Janette Swade

Ms. Swade reported, the LODD task force is continuing to review the current legislation and examine solutions to confusion and difficulties that have occurred in the past. The goal is to offer recommendations that will streamline the process for obtaining LODD benefits while decreasing the stresses placed on affected agencies and loved ones.

911 Commission and Senate Resolution 6 Update – J. David Jones

- a. PSP update on P25 project – making progress – about 50% complete at this point. Hope to be complete by June 2020
- b. Funding legislation for 911 centers – about 1 billion dollars will be available
- c. Federal grant received in PA for next generation 911 systems
- d. Federal initiative to make telecommunicators a protected class
- e. Board is developing training and education, and QA programs for 911 centers
- f. SR 6 subcommittee chairs are meeting ad hoc; talking about big ticket items such as EMS Funding and PA Fire Commission

Recognition – President Henry

President Henry thanked the attendance for their continued support of the PEHSC. Specifically he thanked the organizations leaving the Board:

Allegheny County EMS Council
Highmark
Lehigh Valley Health Network
Northwest EMS
UPMC Susquehanna
VFIS
Wellspan Health

ADJOURN BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

A motion was made by Ms. Bleecher and seconded by Dr. Frailey to adjourn the 2018-2019 Board of Directors meeting. Motion carried.

Board of Directors Meeting 2019-2020
Wednesday, June 12, 2019

Minutes

Convene 2019-2020 Board of Directors Meeting

Mr. Henry, President, called the meeting to order at 1145 hours.

Nominating Committee Election

There were no nominations for the floor in addition to the slate of candidates previously presented by the nominating committee.

A motion was made by Mr. Harig and seconded by Mr. Spencer to accept slate of executive committee members as submitted by the nominating committee. Motion carried.

Mr. Henry turned the meeting over to President Jones

Organizational Reports

1. AHA – Mission LifeLine Update – Alex Kuhn
Pa has moved to second place in the nation for the Mission LifeLine Program with 65 agencies participating.
2. PA Memorial Bike Ride Update – Duane Spencer
Looking for support for the ride please contact the AAP
4. AAP Update – Don DeReamus
Mr. DeReamus provided a comprehensive review of legislation currently introduced in PA

ADJOURN MEETING

A motion was made by Ms. Bleacher and seconded by Dr. Frailey to adjourn the Board of Directors meeting. Motion carried.

The next scheduled meeting of the PEHSC board of directors will be on Wednesday, September 4, 2019 at the PA EMS Conference site.